United Nations S/2017/157

Security Council

Distr.: General
24 February 2017

Original: English

Letter dated 22 February 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to convey herewith a copy of the vision of the Government of Iraq for the post-victory phase following the recapture of areas controlled by Da'esh (see annex), as laid out by the Prime Minister, Haider Al Abadi, in a speech delivered on 14 January 2017 at the conference on the Baghdad dialogue, in which he presented seven interconnected points on community dialogue and reconciliation.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Mohamed Ali **Alhakim**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 22 February 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

Vision of the Iraqi Government for the post-victory phase following the recapture of territories seized by the terrorist gangs of Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)

Below is the vision of the Iraqi Government for the post-victory phase following the recapture of territories seized by the terrorist gangs of Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL):

- First: We must restore security, stability and basic services; enable displaced persons to return to their homes and ensure that they participate in rebuilding what ISIL has destroyed; care for the families of those killed, the wounded and the fighters who sacrificed their lives in defence of their country, as well as the victims of terrorism; reform society in order to eliminate the legacy of ISIL and uproot the culture of violence and hatred; and make a concerted national effort to achieve those humanitarian and patriotic goals.
- Second: We must be committed to respecting and coexisting peacefully with the diverse religious, sectarian and ideological national stakeholders and respecting their holy places; protecting minorities; and ensuring the sanctity of the places of worship of all religions and creeds, as this is a pillar of societal reconciliation.
- Third: We must prevent the recurrence of the aberrant conditions that prevailed in Iraq in the period prior to ISIL taking control of the cities, namely, incitement, tension and hateful sectarian and nationalist entrenchment at the expense of the country's best interests. This is what allowed ISIL to take over cities and governorates, and thus a discourse of patriotism, unity and cooperation must be promoted. Neither ISIL nor any other criminal terrorist organization must be allowed to return or take shelter in recaptured cities, and new terrorist cells must not be allowed to grow.
- Fourth: It is vital to establish good neighbourly relations that are based on shared interests with neighbouring countries and countries of the region, and to ensure that we act on the basis of our national will and our resolve as independent Iraqis with respect to our national issues and interests, and that we do not allow our decision-making or our positions to be tied to foreign interests.
- Fifth: The possession of weapons must be restricted to the State, and there must be complete demilitarization. All components of the State and society must respect the rulings of the judiciary and the rule of law.
- Sixth: We must all continue, with all strength and determination, to combat corruption in all its forms, as it is the greatest hotbed of terrorism and crime.

- Seventh: In the interest of ensuring fairness and equality of opportunity, State agencies and organizations must be protected against political interference, quotas and the monopolization of official and public positions. Appointments should be reserved for competent individuals who can work independently and with professionalism.